

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): An ostomy appliance comprising a front wall and a rear wall of flexible material forming a bag, said rear wall

- having an opening for receiving a stoma, and
- being provided with an adhesive wafer for securing the appliance to a user's skin, said wafer having a hole being aligned with the opening for receiving the stoma,

wherein the opening of the rear wall has an edge being adapted to be secured to a surface of the adhesive wafer facing away from the user in an attachment zone surrounding the hole of the wafer, and

wherein

- a first part of the edge of the opening of the rear wall is permanently secured to the surface of the wafer in a corresponding first part of the attachment zone, and
- a second, remaining part of the edge of the opening of the bag is prepared for adhesive sealing of the same to a remaining second part of the attachment zone.

Claim 2 (original): An ostomy appliance according to claim 1, wherein the second, remaining part of the edge of the opening of the bag is prepared for permanently adhesive sealing of the same to the remaining second part of the attachment zone.

Claim 3 (currently amended): An ostomy appliance as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the ostomy appliance further comprises a separate sealing member disposed in the hole of the wafer surrounding the stoma and having a hole for accommodating the stoma.

Claim 4 (currently amended): An ostomy appliance as claimed in ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein the second part of the edge of the bag is secured to one surface of a stiffening element.

Claim 5 (original): An ostomy appliance as claimed in claim 4 wherein the first and the second part of the edge of the bag are secured to a first and a second part, respectively, of one surface of the stiffening element.

Claim 6 (currently amended): An ostomy appliance as claimed in claim 4 ~~or 5~~ wherein the stiffening element is a flat ring provided with two notches dividing the flat ring into two parts.

Claim 7 (original): An ostomy appliance as claimed in claim 6, wherein the notches stretch essentially along a chord of the flat ring.

Claim 8 (original): An ostomy appliance as claimed in claim 7, wherein the notches stretch essentially along a diameter of the flat ring.

Claim 9 (currently amended): An ostomy appliance as claimed in ~~any of claims 4-8~~ claim 4 wherein the part of the stiffening element secured the second part of the bag is provided with an adhesive layer being covered by a protecting layer.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An ostomy appliance as claimed in ~~any of claims 4-8~~ claim 4 wherein the second part of the attachment zone of the wafer is provided with an adhesive layer being covered by a protecting layer.

Claim 11 (original): A method of applying an ostomy appliance according to claim 1, said method comprising
- locating the stoma,

- adapting the size of the hole of the adhesive wafer to the stoma,
- aligning the stoma and the hole of the adhesive wafer,
- placing the adhesive wafer on the abdomen of the ostomate with the stoma projecting into the hole of the wafer and
- sealing the bag by bringing the remaining part of the edge of the bag into adhesive contact with the remaining second part of the attachment zone.

Claim 12 (original): A method of applying an ostomy appliance according to claim 3, said method comprising

- locating the stoma,
- aligning the stoma and the hole of the adhesive wafer,
- placing the adhesive wafer on the abdomen of the ostomate with the stoma projecting into the hole of the wafer,
- locating the sealing member,
- enlarging the second hole of the sealing member by evertting or rolling an inner rim of the second hole adapting the size and shape of the hole to the stoma,
- aligning the stoma and the second hole,
- placing the sealing member on the abdomen of the ostomate with the stoma projecting into the second hole, and
- bringing the sealing member to seal between the adhesive wafer and the stoma.